

Food Stamp Nutrition Education Systems Review

Status Report

May 7, 2004

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) contracted with Abt Associates, Inc., a nonpartisan public policy research organization in Cambridge, MA, to conduct a two-year study of food stamp nutrition education (FSNE). The objective is to obtain a comprehensive and systematic picture of FSNE operations among State food stamp agencies, implementing agencies, and local FSNE projects.

Contractors completed their collection and review of FY 2004 State FSNE plans and other documents. They identified and abstracted data for 93 implementing agencies in 52 States.

A sample of implementing agencies and State food stamp agencies is being selected for in-person interviews. A systematic random sampling technique is being used to sample implementing agencies based on their organizational structure, their FNS region, and the size of their FY 2004 FSNE budget. The implementing agency sample will be finalized by Spring 2004. Local projects will be purposely selected for each implementing agency in the sample.

A 60-day notice of the data collection effort was published in the Federal Register on April 27, 2004. Comments are requested by June 28, 2004.

Data collection instruments for web-based surveys and in-person interviews are currently under development and will be completed by Summer 2004. A pretest of the instruments is planned for three States in Spring 2004.

Both the web-based survey and in-person interviews will be conducted in Fall 2004. A final report and public-use data file will be available in Fall 2005.

For more information, please contact Kristen Dowling Hyatt with the FNS Office of Analysis, Nutrition and Evaluation. She can be reached by phone at (703) 305-2135 or by email at Kristen.hyatt@fns.usda.gov.

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